

DOCKET NO. SC11641TS

REMARKS

In an Office Action mailed on January 9, 2006, the Examiner: (1) rejected claims 44-50 and 52 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite; (2) rejected claims 1-4, 13-15, 17-18, 27-29, 32-33, 35-41, 43, and 51 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Holiday, Jr. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,272, 674); (3) rejected claims 5-6, 8-12, 30-31, 34, and 42 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on a combination of Holiday and Tremblay et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,925,123); (4) rejected claims 7 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Holiday; (5) rejected claims 19-21 and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on a combination of Holiday and Hoffberg et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,400,996); (6) rejected claim 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on a combination of Holiday, Hoffberg and Tremblay; and (7) objected to claim 22 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but otherwise allowable.

Applicants' representative thanks Examiner Kenneth Tang for the telephone interview held on February 14, 2006. Subsequent to the telephone interview, Applicants' representative proposed to the Examiner a draft amendment to claim 44 to overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph rejection. The Examiner indicated that the proposed draft amendment would overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph rejection.

By this Amendment, Applicants amend claim 44 consistent with the earlier proposed draft amendment. Applicants believe that amended claim 44 is now allowable, since the Examiner had indicated that claim 44 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph rejection. Claims 45-50 and 52 depend, directly or indirectly, upon claim 44 and thus are patentable.

Further, by this Amendment, Applicants amend claim 19 to include the subject matter of allowable claim 22. Claims 25 and 26, which continue to depend from claim 19, have also been amended. Claims 20, 21, and 23-26 depend, directly or indirectly, on claim 19 and thus are patentable.

Finally, by this Amendment, Applicants cancel claims 1-18, 22, 27-43, and 51 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof. Accordingly, Applicants request allowance of pending claims 19-21, 23-26, 44-50, and 52. The Office Action contains numerous statements characterizing the claims, the Specification, and the prior art. Regardless of whether such

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statements are addressed by Applicants, Applicants refuse to subscribe to any of these statements, unless expressly indicated by Applicants. Should issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic-interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at (512) 996-6839.

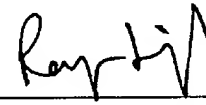
If Applicants have overlooked any additional fees, or if any overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit or debit Deposit Account No. 503079.

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

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Respectfully submitted,

By:



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